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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 21, 1971

The Honorable Richard Helms  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington; D. C.

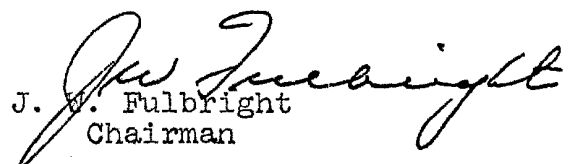
Dear Mr. Helms:

As you are aware, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, under S. Res. 140, agreed to by the Senate on July 4 of this year, is initiating a study of the making of policy relating to United States involvement in Southeast Asia.

In its initial stage the study will consist of an examination and analysis of the 47 volumes entitled "United States-Vietnam Relations, 1945-1967" and related documents and publications, both primary and secondary. For this purpose the Committee has formed a special research staff to study and analyze the appropriate documentation. The special staff have been instructed to examine this subject matter in as scholarly and impartial a manner as possible and to suggest only such judgments and generalizations as can be substantiated by tangible evidence.

The Committee appreciates very much the cooperation of the Department of Defense in making available the study of "United States-Vietnam Relations, 1945-1967." In order, however, to make the study as complete and objective as possible, the Committee would appreciate having made available to it the Central Intelligence Agency's National Intelligence Estimates and special National Intelligence Estimates for Southeast Asia and Vietnam from 1947 until the present.

Sincerely yours,

  
J. W. Fulbright  
Chairman